

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

two or more different software systems producing electronic data relating to a transaction involving documentation communicated in an electronic form;

processing copies of the electronic data to identify electronic documentation items and at least one key value associated with an electronic documentation item;

using the at least one key value to look up a unique transaction identifier associated with the transaction, wherein the transaction includes one unique transaction identifier and two or more associated key values;

indexing the documentation items according to the at least one key value and transaction identifier;

archiving the documentation items in a data storage system or device; and

logging one or more of a date and time associated with at least some of the documentation items.

2. (Currently Amended) A data structure stored in storage medium, comprising:

- a transaction specification database that contains specifications and schema for one or more transaction types and key values of each transaction type;
- a life cycle Index table that contains the key values of the processed transactions and assigned life cycle IDs for the key values;
- an archive database that contains the archived documents or items and their life cycle IDs;
- a log detail database that provides chronological order to transactions by logging and time stamping each transaction parsed; and

wherein:

- transaction data stored within the data structure is associated with transactions , and
- data associated with a single transaction and stored in each of the transaction specification database, the life cycle Index table, the archive database, and the log detail database is searchable by a retrieval processor in a single query, wherein the retrieval processor is a computer process.

3. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

 a first interface used to couple the system with a first external system producing first electronic data relating to a transaction involving documentation communicated in an electronic form, wherein the first electronic data includes at least a first key value;

 a second interface used to couple the system with a second external system producing second electronic data relating to the transaction, wherein the second electronic data includes at least a second key value; and

 wherein the system is operable to:

 process copies of the first and second electronic data to identify electronic documentation items and at least one key value associated with an electronic documentation item;

 use the key value to look up a unique transaction identifier associated with the transaction;

 index the documentation items according to key value and unique transaction identifier;

 archive the documentation items; and

 log one or more of a date and time associated with at least some of the documentation items.